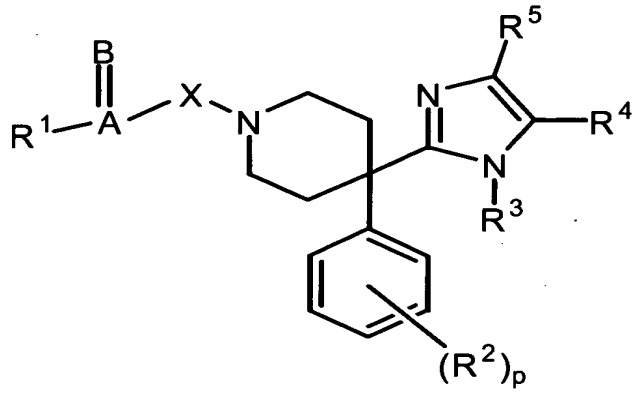
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the prevention and/or treatment of a central nervous system disorder comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of ~~Use of~~ a compound according to Formula (I)



(I)

the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the tautomeric forms thereof and the N-oxide forms thereof, for ~~the manufacture of a medicament~~ for ~~use in~~ the prevention and/or treatment of central nervous system disorders, to a patient in need of treatment wherein :

A=B is C=O, C=N-R^6 (wherein R^6 is hydrogen or cyano), C=S, S=O, SO_2 and C=CR^7R^8 (wherein R^7 and R^8 each independently are hydrogen, nitro and ~~or~~ alkyl);

X is a covalent bond, -CH_2- or CH_2CH_2- ;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyloxy, alkylcarbonyloxy, Ar-oxy, Het-oxy, Ar-carbonyloxy, Het-carbonyloxy, Ar-alkyloxy, Het-alkyloxy, alkyl, polyhaloalkyl, alkyloxyalkyl, Ar-alkyl, Het-alkyl, Ar, Het, thio, alkylthio, Ar-thio, Het-thio or NR^9R^{10} wherein R^9 and R^{10} each independently are hydrogen, alkyl, Ar, Ar-alkyl, Het, Het-alkyl, Ar-carbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, Het-carbonyl and ~~or~~ alkyloxycarbonylalkyl ;

or A=B and R^1 together form an optionally substituted semi-aromatic or aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic radical Het^2 or Het^3 ;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, alkyloxy, alkylcarbonyloxy, phenyloxy, phenylcarbonyloxy, halo, cyano, alkyl, polyhaloalkyl, alkyloxyalkyl, formyl, carboxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or dialkylaminocarbonyl, phenyl, nitro, amino, mono- or dialkyl-amino, thio and ~~or~~ alkylthio ;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, Ar, Ar-alkyl, Ar-alkenyl, Ar-carbonyl, Het, Het-alkyl, Het-alkenyl or Het-carbonyl ;

R^4, R^5 each independently is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, carboxy; aminocarbonyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, halo and ~~or~~ hydroxyalkyl ;

p is an integer equal to zero, 1, 2 or 3 ;

alkyl is a straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms ; or is a cyclic saturated hydrocarbon (cycloalkyl) radical having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms ; or is a cyclic saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 3 to 7 carbon atoms attached to a straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms; wherein each carbon atom may be optionally substituted with amino, nitro, thio, hydroxy, oxo, cyano, formyl or carboxy ;

alkenyl is an alkyl radical having one or more double bonds ;

Ar is a homocycle selected from the group consisting of phenyl and naphthyl, each optionally substituted with one or more substituents, each substituent independently selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, alkyloxy, alkylcarbonyloxy, phenyloxy, phenylcarbonyloxy, polyhaloalkyloxy, halo, cyano, alkyl, polyhaloalkyl, alkyloxyalkyl, formyl, haloformyl, carboxy, alkylcarbonyl, alkyloxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or dialkylaminocarbonyl, phenylalkyl, phenyl, nitro, amino, mono- or dialkyl-amino, thio, alkylthio ~~or~~ and SO_2-CH_3;

halo is a substituent selected from the group of fluoro, chloro, bromo and iodo ;

polyhaloalkyl is a straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a cyclic saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 3 to ~~7carbon~~ 7 carbon atoms, wherein one or more carbon atoms is substituted with one or more halo-atoms ;

Het is a heterocyclic radical selected from the group consisting of Het^1, Het^2 and Het^3 ; wherein each heterocyclic radical Het^1, Het^2 and Het^3 may optionally be

substituted on a carbon and/or an heteroatom with halo, hydroxy, alkyloxy, alkyl, Ar, Ar-alkyl or pyridinyl.

Het^1 is an aliphatic monocyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidinyl, dioxolyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrrazolidinyl, piperidinyl, dioxyl, morpholinyl, dithianyl, thiomorpholinyl, piperazinyl and tetrahydrofuranyl ;

Het^2 is a semi-aromatic monocyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group consisting of 2H-pyrrolyl, pyrrolinyl, imidazolinyl and pyrrazolinyl ;

Het^3 is an aromatic monocyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group consisting of pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, furanyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl and triazinyl; or an aromatic bicyclic heterocyclic radical selected from the group consisting of quinolinyl, quinoxalinyl, indolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, benzofuranyl and benzothienyl.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Use according to~~ claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ R^1 is selected from the group consisting of alkyloxy, Ar-alkyloxy, alkyl, polyhaloalkyl, alkyloxyalkyl, Ar-alkyl, Het-alkyl, Ar, piperazinyl, pyrrolyl, thiazolyl, pyrrolidinyl and NR^9R^{10} wherein R^9 and R^{10} each independently are hydrogen, alkyl, Ar, Ar-alkyl, pyridinyl or alkyloxycarbonylalkyl.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Use according to~~ claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ A=B and R^1 together form a radical selected from the group of Het^2 and Het^3.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Use according to~~ claim 3, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ A=B and R^1 together form a radical selected from the group consisting of benzoxazolyl, thiazolyl, benzothiazolyl, benzimidazolyl and pyrimidinyl.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~Use according to any one of claims 1-4, characterized in that~~ X is a covalent bond.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~Use according to any one of claims 1-5, characterized in that~~ R^2 is alkyloxy or halo.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~Use according to any one of claims 1-6, characterized in that~~ R^3 is selected from the group of phenylalkyl and naphthyl, each independently substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of halo, alkyloxycarbonyl, hydroxy, alkyloxy and dialkylaminocarbonyl.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Use according to~~ claim 1, in which A=B is C=O or SO_2, R^1 is selected from the group consisting of alkyloxy, alkyloxyalkyl, Ar and ~~or~~ NR^9R^{10}, wherein R^9 and R^{10} each independently are hydrogen or Ar ; or A=B and R^1 together form a benzoxazolyl radical ; p is zero, R^3 is benzyl optionally substituted with hydroxy or alkyloxycarbonyl and R^4 and R^5 each are hydrogen.

9. (Curently Amended) The method of ~~Use according to~~ claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of

- 1622556-AAA4-[[2-(1-benzoyl-4-phenyl-4-piperidinyl)-1*H*-imidazol-1-yl]methyl]-methylbenzoate ;
- 4518293-AAA1-ethoxycarbonyl-4-phenyl-4-[1-(1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl]-piperidine;
- 4403750-AAA4-[[2-[1-(2-benzoxazolyl)-4-phenyl-4-piperidinyl]-1*H*-imidazol-1-yl]methyl]-methylbenzoate ;
- 4357652-AAA1-benzoyl-4-phenyl-4-[1-(phenylmethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl]-piperidine;
- 5123716-AAA1-benzoyl-4-phenyl-4-[1-(1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl]-piperidine;
- 2700035-AAAN,4-diphenyl-4-[1-(phenylmethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl]-1-piperidine-sulfonamide;
- 4657939-AAA1-ethoxycarbonyl-4-phenyl-4-[1-(phenylmethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl]-piperidine;
- 4463719-AAA1-(methoxyacetyl)-4-phenyl-4-[1-(1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl]-piperidine ;
- 4357821-AAA[4-(1-Benzyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)-4-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl]-(3,5-dimethyl-phenyl)-methanone ;
- 1626846-AAA4-{2-[1-(2-Methoxy-acetyl)-4-phenyl-piperidin-4-yl]-imidazol-1-ylmethyl}-methylbenzoate ;
- 4264546-AAA4-(1-Benzyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)-4-phenyl-1-thiazol-2-yl-piperidine ;
- 4403815-AAA2-{4-Phenyl-4-[1-(1-phenyl-ethyl)-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl]-piperidin-1-yl}-benzo-oxazole ;

- 4357522-AAA1-[4-(1-Benzyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)-4-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl]-2-methoxy-ethanone ; and
- 4246281-AAA2-[4-(1-Benzyl-1*H*-imidazol-2-yl)-4-phenyl-piperidin-1-yl]-pyrimidine.

10. (Currently Amended) Use according to claim 1, wherein ~~any one of claims 1-9, characterized in that~~ the central nervous system disorder is selected from the group consisting of mood disorders, depressive disorders, anxiety disorders, stress-related disorders associated with depression and/or anxiety and eating disorders and ~~or~~ a combination thereof.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Use according to~~ claim 10, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the central nervous system disorder is a depressive and/or anxiety disorder.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~Use according to any one of claims 1-11, characterized in that the compounds according to Formula (I),~~ the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the tautomeric forms thereof and the *N*-oxide forms thereof are co-administered with other agents, in particular antidepressant, antianxiety and/or antipsychotic agents.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~Use according to~~ claim 12, wherein ~~in that the compounds according to Formula (I),~~ the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the tautomeric forms thereof and the N-oxide forms thereof and the other agents may be present as a combined preparation for simultaneous, separate or sequential use.

14. (Currently Amended) The method for preventing and/or treatment of ~~Method of treating a human suffering from~~ a central nervous system disorder of claim 1, wherein the central nervous system disorder is selected from the group consisting of ~~disorder, in particular a~~ mood disorders, depressive disorders, anxiety disorders, stress-related disorders associated with depression and/or anxiety and eating disorders or any combination ~~thereof, which comprises administering to the human in need of such a treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Formula (I), the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the tautomeric forms thereof and the *N*-oxide forms~~ thereof.